



## Administrative Policies and Procedures: 27.29

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Use of Tracking Dogs</b>
<b>Authority:</b>	TCA 37-5-105, 37-5-106
<b>Standards:</b>	None
<b>Application:</b>	To All Department of Children's Services Youth Development Center Superintendents and Employees

### Policy Statement:

Superintendents shall have the discretion whether to use and house tracking dogs at their facility. Superintendents have the responsibility to ensure that such dogs are treated as valuable working dogs.

### Purpose:

To outline procedures for use of tracking dogs at YDC's.

### Procedures:

#### A. Written local procedures

##### 1. Requirements

Superintendents who choose to use tracking dogs at their facilities must develop local procedures that specify the circumstances under which tracking dogs are to be used.

##### 2. Contents of procedure

Superintendents choosing to house dogs at their facility must include the following, at a minimum, in their written procedures:

- Adequate kennel that meets basic health standards
- Provisions for assuring dogs receive veterinary care and maintain immunizations recommended by the American Veterinary association and as required by state law.
- Responsibilities of dog handler; including provisions to ensure sufficient exercise to maintain dog's health and well-being.
- Training requirements for dog handler(s) and dogs.
- Identification of dogs as state property and documentation recording that ownership.
- Equipment to be used in conjunction with the canine unit.
- Replacement of dogs.

	h) Assistance to be given to other governmental agencies at the request of an authorized representative.
<b>B. Restrictions of use</b>	The use of tracking dogs for the purpose of harassment or intimidation is prohibited.

<b>Forms:</b>	None
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<b>Collateral documents:</b>	<i>None</i>
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